

# Congress Considers Mail Clerks' Pay First In General Move for Higher Salaries

## POSTAL CLERK PAY BILL IS TO BE TAKEN UP MONDAY

With the appointment today of a subcommittee of the House Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads, to investigate the question of increased pay for postal employees, the first important step looking to immediate results in the fight for adequate salary increases for all Federal employees has been taken.

Following the presentation to the House late yesterday of the Postoffice appropriation bill by Chairman Moon, of the Postoffice Committee, Congressman Moon today announced the appointment of the subcommittee, as follows: Bell of Georgia, chairman; Cox of Indiana, Blackmon of Alabama, Stearnson of Wisconsin, and Madden of Illinois.

**Will Meet on Monday.**  
The committee will hold its first meeting Monday, and will later report to the full Postoffice Committee. Its findings with regard to the increase in pay the postal employees have long fought for.

The postoffice appropriation bill will be the first supply bill to be considered by Congress, and an immediate alignment of the forces both for a large increase for all Government employees will result. A test of the temper of the House on the question of the substitution of labor's program for a 25 per cent increase for all employees, graded downward, as provided for in the bill introduced yesterday in the Senate by Senator Penrose of Pennsylvania, will be had as the result of action by the Postoffice Committee of the House, as the postal employees' fight is the fight of employees of all other departments.

**Increases Favored.**  
There has been a marked tendency of members of Congress in favor of increasing salaries, to start with the Post Office Department. This is shown by the Osborne bill introduced in the House, the Penrose bill in the Senate, and by the labor members of Congress in their private conversations.

As pointed out in The Times, the postal employees are to be included in any increase authorized, and whatever scale determined on by the subcommittee appointed by Congressman Moon, will be the increase by which increases for all employees may be gauged.

A woman is taking the leading part in the fight for just wages for Federal employees. Florence Etheridge, delegate representing the National Federal Employees by forcing action last night at the meeting of delegates representing 30,000 civil service employees held in the American Federation of Labor Building, has taken a definite stand for a determined fight to have Congress take immediate action.

The following resolution presented by V. F. Keller unanimously passed: "That this meeting heartily endorse the program of the American Federation of Labor for increases in salaries materially greater than the present increases and in some measure commensurate with the increased cost of living."

Michael F. O'Donohue, a seventy-year-old employee of the Patent Office, told the meeting:

"The Government is losing important workers every day because of the poor pay received. They will lose more and more of these first-class men as long as this war lasts. Let me warn you—this country is not over the top yet by any means."

The meeting last night was ostensibly called to consider the question of pensions for supernumerary employees of the Government, but it finally resolved itself into a meeting devoted to the fight for higher pay.

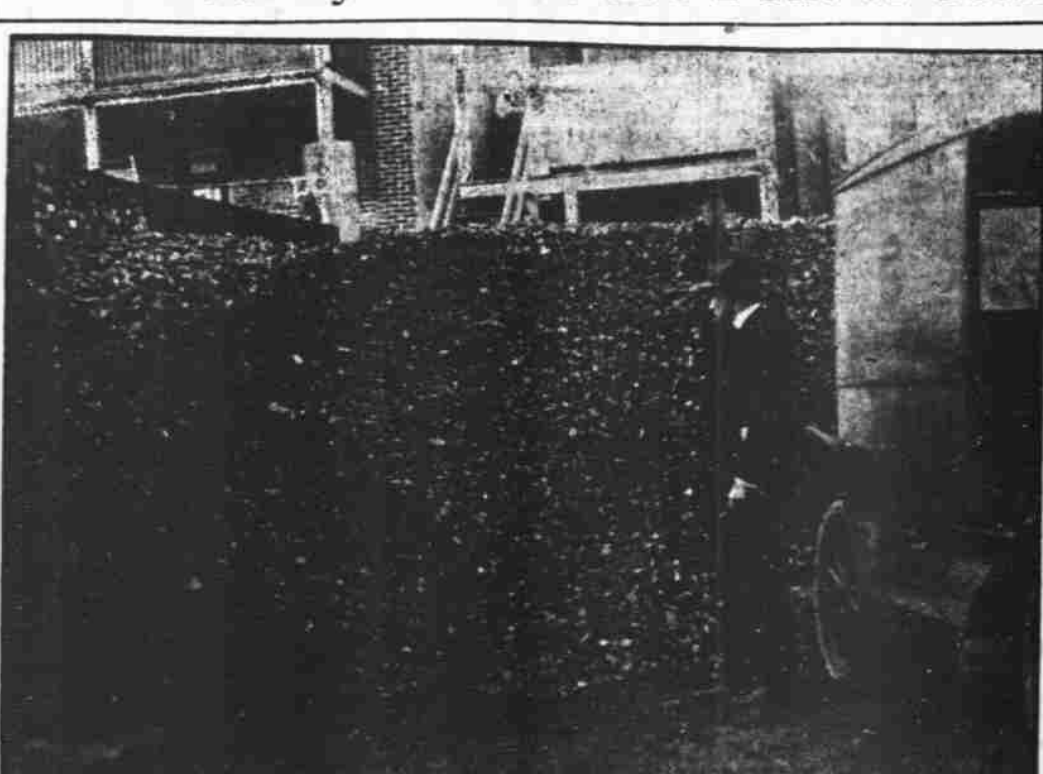
### ADVERTISEMENT



### Cuticura for Soldiers

Cuticura and Ointment are the soldier's ever-ready friends for eczema, rash, itching, irritations, cuts, sores, burns, blisters and stings of insects, sunburn and windburn, the Soap cleanses and purifies the Ointment to soothe and heal. Unrivalled for the toilet. For sample each free by mail address Post-card: "Cuticura, Dept. 146, Boston." Sold everywhere and sent by mail. Cuticura Soap 25c., Ointment 50c.

## Feast Your Eyes—Here's 60 Tons of Coal



Above is a picture of a coal pile high enough to almost exclude from view the major portion of the house in which the owner of the coal pile lives. His name is William Myers, and he is the proprietor of a grocery store at 1329 Maryland avenue northeast. In the picture is only about half of the pile. It extends away to the left about the same distance as is seen in the photograph. This coal pile contains between fifty and sixty tons of coal, according to the estimates of people

who have estimated coal piles before. The man in front of the picture is five feet and seven inches tall. He is standing there to give you an idea of the height of the coal pile. The depth is about six feet at the bottom and three at the top. This coal will cost you 50 cents a bushel if you try to buy it—but unless you are a regular customer, you probably won't be successful. There are an average of thirty bushels of coal in a ton. These are the facts—draw your own conclusions.

## Austrian Regiments Battle Each Other Through a Mistake

ROME, Dec. 8.—While the main force struggled with Italian forces at the front, two Austro-Hungarian regiments engaged each other in a terrific hand-to-hand struggle behind the lines back of Asolo, says an official report from Italian headquarters in northern Italy.

Before the two regiments learned that they belonged to the same side, they had almost exterminated one another.

Early in the night, according to the detailed account, a regiment of Hungarian Czechs clashed with a regiment of Galician Poles, both wearing a different uniform and speaking a different dialect.

Rifle fire was followed by bayonet charges, and then a hand-to-hand struggle with grenades continued throughout the

morning higher pay for the Federal employees.

**Representatives Present.**  
Representatives were present from the National Federation of Federal Employees, Federal Employees of Washington, Naval Gun Factory Employees, and other employees of the Navy, Postoffice Clerks, Letter Carriers, Civil Service Retirement Association, Civil Service Union of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, International Association of Machinists, and National Association of Civil Service Employees.

Reports that in some branches of the Government temporary employees such as skilled mechanics are being put on the rolls to help out politicians, are going to command notice in the House Appropriations Committee.

The employment of a needlessly large number of men at extravagant rates of pay on cantonments and on much of the new Government buildings is one of the things which is the subject of much gossip. The Appropriations Committee of the House and the various committees handling appropriation bills will give attention to such criticism and see how far it is justified.

## REPORTS SHOW SALARY INCREASES GRANTED TO FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Reports showing the increase of compensation which has been given to employees in the different departments for the first quarter of the fiscal year are being sent to the House and Senate by Government heads.

The increase for the War Department amounts to \$30,026. This does not include a small list of increases for Panama Canal employees.

The Navy Department reports an increase of \$61,880.

For the District of Columbia the increase was \$106,489.

The Government Printing Office puts in a report for the first four months of the fiscal year. The total increase for that period amounts to \$120,364.

Small increases are reported from the Smithsonian Institution and the National Museum.

In the House 428 employees on the rolls received increases.

**OFFICERS' SALARIES BARRED.**  
The War Department announced today that only those officers serving with troops armed with the submachine gun will be allowed to carry the salary

## COAL DEALER WITH 60 TONS RESTRICTS SALES TO BUSHELS

The Times today found a coal dealer who has plenty of that scarce commodity—and for sale!

In the rear of his grocery store at 1329 Maryland avenue northeast, William Myers has between fifty and sixty tons stored in open bins, according to estimates made by his neighbors, who have been looking at Myers' coal pile for reasons of their own.

This is the way he sells it: Fifty cents a bushel and 12 cents a peck, delivered; the same if you deliver it yourself. He will not sell more than six bushels of coal to one person, and he will only sell to old customers.

**Gives His Reasons.**  
Here are his own reasons:

"If I did not save my coal for my old customers, I ought to be shot. Last week I delivered to wealthy residents of the northwest section a ton of coal. I got \$10.50 for it. That family had five or six tons stored in their cellar already. The poor man can't get anything when times are hard, but the rich have plenty."

"That is the reason I will sell only to my old customers."

Figuring thirty bushels of coal to the ton, which is the average according to local dealer's opinions, Myers gets \$15 a ton for his coal, selling it either by the peck or by the bushel.

**Official of Coal Supply.**  
Officials of the coal administration stated that they were aware of the attitude of Myers. It is probably that they may order his supply cut off, but no plans for the immediate seizure and distribution of Myers' coal have been made.

Myers' coal is piled high in open bins directly in the rear of his grocery store. Around the lot is a high fence, probably twelve feet. There is no method of ingress except through the private alley to the right of the store or through the store itself.

The Times reporter found obstacles in his path when he tried to see Myers' coal pile. Myers wasn't willing; neither was he willing to sell the reporter any coal, but at last he offered to supply The Times reporter with four bushels at the prevailing rate.

"How much coal have you?" Myers was asked.

"Oh! I don't know exactly," he answered.

"Well, how much would you guess you have?"

"What difference does that make?" was the answer.

"Wouldn't sell you?"

"Will you sell me a ton?" the reporter wanted to know.

"No," was the reply.

"Well, how much will you sell?"

"Name it, please."

But the reporter finally prevailed and Myers agreed to let go four bushels at 50 cents a bushel.

When The Times reporter tried to take the coal, Myers' Federal Fuel Administrator for the District of Columbia, he was apprised by Mr. Weaver's secretary that the fuel administrator was too busy to talk.

"We have some information for Mr. Weaver that we believe will be of interest to him," The Times said.

"In regard to a coal dealer named William Myers, at 1329 Maryland avenue northeast."

"Mr. Weaver says he knows all about that case."

"Won't he talk to us?"

"Mr. Weaver is too busy to talk," was the reply.

"But this is a very important matter," said The Times reporter.

"Mr. Weaver is too busy to talk," was the reply.

The continued inability of the fuel ad-

## King Constantine's \$100,000 Annuity Is Held Back by Athens

ATHENS, Dec. 8.—No part of the allowance of King Constantine, it is said, has been paid since his abdication, although the Greek government undertook to give him a yearly annuity of 500,000 francs (\$100,000).

The cause of the delay in payment is twofold. One reason is the question whether the allowance should be made an additional item in the budget or be deducted from Alexander's 2,000,000 francs forming the civil list, which is thought excessive in view of the present reduced establishment.

The second is that Constantine has not given his formal pledge that he will refrain from seeking to regain the throne and continuing to serve the interests of Germany.

Ministry to break the coal famine in Washington through co-operation of the railroads and dealers caused officials today to consider taking some more effective action to have coal hauled to the city and to conserve its use after delivery to consumers.

**Arrivals Inadequate.**  
Despite the fact an average of sixty-five cars of coal has arrived daily for the last five days it has been wholly inadequate to meet the demand and many families in the city still are unable to buy coal.

One plan of conserving coal, suggested by the fuel administration, has been unofficially rejected. It was that public schools close at certain periods of the year to conserve the supply. Board of Education officials feel such an arrangement might do more harm than good.

The administration is seriously considering the adoption of the card ration system, suggested several days ago, as a means of seeing that coal is delivered to places where the supply has been entirely exhausted.

**One Ton in Myattsville.**  
There was less than one ton of coal in Myattsville today in supply an immediate demand for 1,000 tons, and dealers said there was no hope of the situation being bettered unless the Maryland fuel administration could secure several cars at once.

The Myattsville coal supply has been gradually disappearing for three weeks, when the last shipment, a few railcars, arrived.

For several weeks families have been getting their fuel supply from the gas company, since that has advanced from 2 to 18 cents a bushel since the shortage became acute. The demand for this has become so great there is a daily queue at the gas plant waiting to get a supply.

**DR. KARL MUCK NOT ALIEN ENEMY, IS CLAIM**

S. A. Ellis, manager of the Boston Symphony Orchestra has sent letters to the subscribers to the Washington concert in which he states that Dr. Karl Muck, director of the orchestra, is not an alien enemy of the United States, that his father was a Swiss, and that, therefore, Dr. Muck might claim that citizenship and thus make himself still possible as the leader of the orchestra.

**I. C. C. DENIES APPEAL.**  
The I. C. C. today denied a petition to reopen the Alaska case brought two years ago by Delegate James Wickham representing the small shippers of that territory. He claimed that the carriers were favoring large interests and discriminating against small shippers.

## FOOD HANDLERS IN HOMES TO ATTEND THEATER MEETING

A big theater meeting with a motion picture play and address by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Carl Vrooman and Federal Food Administrator Clarence R. Wilson is being arranged for the cooks and kitchen maids of Washington, and the housewives who prepare their own meals.

The meeting will be held in the Belasco Theater Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The meeting is designed to aid in the cause of food conservation in the Capital and particular effort will be made to secure the attendance of those who actually handle the food in the household. It is under direction of Mr. Wilson, food administrator for the District.

Admission will be by card only. Cards are being issued on mail or personal request by Miss Roberts, room 164, Food Administration Building, who is in charge of arrangements.

The motion picture play, "The Patriot," acted by Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Drew will be shown, and there will be other prominent speakers beside Mr. Wilson and Mr. Vrooman.

Particular effort is to be made to get the food handlers rather than the heads of households in the wealthy homes of Washington, where there is the greatest opportunity for food conservation.

## U. S. TO LEAD ALL WORLD IN SCIENCE, SAYS LANE REPORT

All nations will be America's debtors for leadership in scientific as well as political thought as the result of the war, Secretary of Interior Franklin K. Lane stated today in a personal preface to his annual report.

"Our status in this war," he said, "gives us a place of moral ascendancy from which, if we are great enough to be humble, we can become real masters of men, conquerors of the invincible kingdom of man's mind."

He pointed to the war use of peace machinery in his department, the chemists "who have met America's needs as ably as Germany's did," and the geologists who construct dry, mudless trenches for the Sammler.

When submarine shipping destruction seriously cut down pyrite imports from Spain, new mines were located in Georgia and Alabama promising a yield of 30,000 tons monthly, more than fifteen ships could bring from Europe.

The gas helmet of mine saving crews developed into the gas masks for American troops at the front.

Well filled with examples of the general recommendations except a suggestion to Congress that pending leasing bills be passed to release water power and petroleum resources for the war.

"But this war is not to be won by the measuring of resources," he said, "for it was never to be won, China possibly with it, or try to do it. The spirit of the people is the making of the nation. The extent to which a people can co-operate marks the point of civilization they have reached."

The greatest outstanding fact of the past year is that under the influence of a common danger and purpose Americans are quick to come together."

## The November Advertising Story

Here are figures that tell briefly and emphatically the development of the advertising business in the Washington Times as a medium for profit-bringing advertising.

**The Times' Advertising Gain in November over November of 1916 was 153,652 lines, or 549 columns**

The July gain was 83,793 lines; the August gain, 118,889 lines; the September gain, 119,830 lines; the October gain, 168,301 lines.

EDGAR D. SHAW, Publisher.

**The December Advertising Story**

Shows a Decided Increase in the Rate of Gain.

Dec. 1, 2,900 Lines Gain  
Dec. 2, 13,075 Lines Gain  
Dec. 3, 5,893 Lines Gain  
Dec. 4, 9,355 Lines Gain  
Dec. 5, 9,056 Lines Gain  
Dec. 6, 11,578 Lines Gain  
Dec. 7, 14,559 Lines Gain

Mr. Foss, of Illinois, who followed Mr. Cooper, gave strong and eloquent support to the war on Austria-Hungary, and for the present, urged insistence on its extension to Turkey and Bulgaria.

The speeches which followed, however worthy of the occasion, must be left to history—for the sake of which all members had finally "unanimous consent to extend and revise" them.

When Mr. London took the floor, as the Lonesomest Man in America, he

## Congress What It Did Yesterday

Another World Record Broken—The Best-Mannered Declaration of War in History—The Lonesomest Man in America. The Railway War Sufferers—Herodotus and the Herodotus Club.

By W. V. BYARS.

"We, the people of the United States of America, in Congress assembled," declared another war yesterday. The operation was completed, to all intents and purposes, at a quarter of 4 o'clock p. m.

It was done with the best of good feeling by all concerned—for all concerned.

Mr. Gillett of Massachusetts is opposed to war, as such, but in favor of its enforcement wherever the United States is concerned in it. He may agree that the best of good feeling is an improvement on the habits of the original cave man of the Stone Age. In declaring war, the cave man painted one side of his face black and the other red. He then showed heroic emotion by "ejaculations." As a rule, his "ejaculations" were whoops, punctuated by swinging his stone ax and leaping into the air as high as possible. Then he "ululated." This is a polite way of saying that he ended the proceedings with a howl, intended to be hair-raising.

When "we, the people of the United States, in Congress assembled," declared war yesterday there was no hint of this sort of thing. It was the best-mannered, most considerate, humane, and altogether courteous declaration of war in the history of the world since Columbus discovered America. And before that, there was nothing like it back to the time the "records of civilization" begin with the pictures on the wall of that famous cave in France where cave men are supposed to have held war congresses about 10,000 years before Adam. So, even a slight improvement in history ought to be welcomed to the list of the other world records we have broken.

In the House, the Committee of the President and the Committee of the President to use the resources of the United States, military and civil, against Austria-Hungary was the order of business after the reading of the Journal.

After a delay of a quarter of an hour on the point of "no quorum," the program opened and was carried out by the Committee of the Whole House, with Mr. Garrett of Tennessee in the chair.

Chairman Flood, of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Cooper (Republican) of Wisconsin, for the same committee, as general manager, gave complete satisfaction to all present, both on the floor and in the galleries. The galleries were well filled. Perhaps some in the galleries, who had never seen a war declared, expected something different, but they were soon convinced that our way is the best possible.

Except for Mr. Meyer London, of New York, Socialist, there was complete unity. Mr. London did not really interfere with or try to do so. He merely squared his record as the Lonesomest Man in America.

To summarize this unity as it was eloquently and forcibly expressed on the floor, it was American through-out.

In American unity, if we belong to the party outside the War Administration, we know we have one chance at the next election, as against a war party in administration. We must get to the front—a little ahead of the Administration, if possible, but never behind it.

Hence in Congress assembled, with unity between Democrats and Republicans complete, we supported the President on both sides with equal patriotism, though some of us were anxious to do even more. In this case, we would have liked to include Bulgaria and Turkey, but we postponed that for fear of embarrassing the President as commander-in-chief of the army and navy. Not being cave men we were calm, but we showed we were holding ourselves back for the President's sake.

This distinction, which made no difference at all to the result, ran through the speeches, with only an occasional variation.

In opening, Mr. Cooper gave the record of Austro-Hungarian submarine attacks on American vessels, showing that a state of war actually had existed for many months. Such acts on the high seas, being fully as hostile as an armed invasion of our territory, the declaration of war became merely a matter of form.

Beyond the matter of form, Mr. Cooper added a second reason—the urgent need of Italy for help. The Italians need help, he said, not only to regain the territory they have lost, but to "march in triumph to Vienna." This was understood as meaning the possibility of American troops soon to be in Italy, as well as in France and Belgium.

Mr. Foss, of Illinois, who followed Mr. Cooper, gave strong and eloquent support to the war on Austria-Hungary, and for the present, urged insistence on its extension to Turkey and Bulgaria.

The speeches which followed, however worthy of the occasion, must be left to history—for the sake of which all members had finally "unanimous consent to extend and revise" them.

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was received with disapproval, but it was the disapproval any American audience shows the man who is not afraid to be Lonesome. He began with dignity, but forgot it before he closed, and "walked the floor," speaking out with "vivid vim," as if he were in a "soap box campaign" at home in New York. He contended that if Socialists had controlled European parliaments in 1914, there would have been no war. He was convinced that Socialists must succeed to stop war. And he wished to see all kaisers and emperors "put out of business." He did not wish to have his vote against war understood as in any way an endorsement of anything done by the kaisers and autocrats in or out of Austria.

Mr. Lenroot of Wisconsin and Mr. Chandler of New York, who followed, offered evidence that, in opposing war, Mr. London did not represent Socialists in general.

When Mr. Chandler grew severe, London interrupted with the question: "Is that the speech that defeated Mayor Mitchell in New York?" Then the chair suppressed "applause from the galleries."

Mr. Sabath of Illinois defended Poles, Bohemians, Slovaks, and others in the United States who were born in Austria-Hungary. He said that 93 per cent of them wished to see the Emperor of Austria dethroned, and that their feelings were shared by at least 95 per cent of their kindred in Austria. He had introduced a joint resolution for their relief in America from the alien-enemy acts.

In the Senate the War Resolutions were introduced by Chairman Stone, of the Committee on Foreign Relations, with a preamble slightly different from that of the House resolution. Senator Stone, among other reasons for their adoption, said that the United States is now supporting Italy as well as England and France.

Senator Lodge favored the inclusion of Turkey and Bulgaria, but waived his opinions for the sake of unity. Senator Hitchcock promised that around the table when peace is made, the United States will be present to demand justice for Austria-Hungary against threats of dismemberment.

There was no opposition. Senator La Follette stepped aside and was not recorded as voting. Senators Gronna, Norris, and Vandaman, who opposed war with Germany, voted for the resolutions in a roll call, which showed 74 ayes and none opposed.

In the House, the Committee of the Whole rose at 3:40 o'clock. Chairman Flood offered the Senate resolutions as a substitute for those of the House. On the final roll call, the Chair announced the vote as 361 to 1.

Changes listed the total of the ayes by the addition of several absentees who had expected a vote at 5 o'clock.

The thing was done. Before it was done, "the only lady member" had recorded her protest against war as a result of plutocratic commercialism, but she voted with the majority. So there is nothing left to say except that "everything passed off quietly." The Senate adjourned to Monday and the House to Tuesday.

By unanimous consent, Mr. Modill McCormick, of Illinois, will address the House next Friday immediately after its adjournment. During his visit to Europe he saw battles, and his address may illustrate the work of "the reaper whose name is Death."

The House Committee on Military Affairs has under advisement a petition from "the Herodotus Club," of Whitesboro, N. Y., for "the moral protection of the army." Herodotus, as the first man who wrote history for Europe, was much interested in both morals and armies. He thought it remarkable that some of our ancient European ancestors ate their relatives who were too old to mobilize quickly.

Bohemians, Slovaks, Moravians, Ruthenians, Poles, Serbs, Croats, Italians, and Roumanians are named in the Sabath joint resolutions as enemies of monarchy and friends of the republic, who ought not to be considered as "alien enemies" in the United States, though born in Austria-Hungary. This does not exhaust the list. There are Jews, for instance. The first known republic belongs to their records.

Under the American Legion of Honor bill, introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator Owen, American citizens who deserve to be decorated by foreign governments, can get their deserts.

They will also be able to decorate themselves as often as needed. The late Thomas Jefferson supposed that it was not safe for democracy for Americans to decorate themselves or to be decorated. But if we must be to win the war he is certainly too patriotic to turn over in his grave.

**SPECIAL NOTICES**  
NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the stockholders of the Washington American Newspaper Publishing Co. will be held in the office of the club, Southern Building, Washington, D. C., on Wednesday, January 2, 1918, at 11 o'clock noon, for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors for the ensuing year, and for such other business as may be properly brought before said meeting. EDWARD J. WALKER, secretary.

**DEATHS**  
BACON—On Thursday, December 6, 1917, at his home, 803 Connecticut avenue, L. NEWARK, husband of Nettie B. Bacon. Funeral will take place from his late residence today, 2 p. m. Kindly omit flowers. RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 8.—That money is not being used in Virginia politics these days was proven by the sworn statement made by Harry K. Walcott, of Norfolk, candidate for attorney general, filed with Governor Stuart, swearing that the total outlay by him in connection with his candidacy was 55 cents. Mr. Walcott was not elected.

**MARRIED**  
YOUTH—On November 14, 1917, FRANK C. YOUTH, of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Alexandria, Va., and Miss M. E. Kelly, of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Alexandria, Va.

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## PEOPLE AWAKENING TO DANGER OF DOG, HEALTH HEAD SAYS

The prerogative of youngsters in the crowded section about Twenty-fifth street and Pennsylvania avenue northwest, to play on the pavements and lots without molestation from savage dogs today stands sustained. Edward Ball, Jr., of 1212 Twenty-fifth street, romping with a group of companions, found his way into the back yard of Charles Clements, of 2509 M street, where the Scotch terrier of George Phillips, negro, of 1225 Twenty-fifth street was napping about. The dog leaped upon him and bit him in the hip.

Policeman J. J. Bonayne, of the Third precinct, making his rounds, spotted the youngster and the dog, bent to repeat the attack. Bonayne dragged the dog to the precinct station, where the pound wagon called and conveyed the canine offender to the death house.

Edward is under treatment of a physician. Dr. E. K. Sands, veterinarian of the District Health Department, an expert on rabies, made a clinical examination of the dog before its death and pronounced it normal. Health Officer Woodward, however, points out that it is not necessary for a dog to have rabies in order that its bite should cause dangerous toxic infection.

Dr. Woodward today complimented the Times upon its work in presenting full facts